

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: March 6, 2020

City Council Meeting Cancelled

The regularly scheduled City Council for Monday, March 9th has been cancelled. Several City Councilors are attending the National League of Cities' Congress of Cities in Washington, D.C. and one Councilor is unable to make the meeting so there will not be a quorum.

Last Chance for a Free Tree

This Saturday, March 7th from 9:00 to noon is the last chance to pickup a free tree at Coiner Park. There may be extra trees left over so residents will be able to pickup additional trees if they have already picked up one.

US Air Force Concert

The City Manager met with the logistics representative from the US Air Force Band of the Golden West to make preparations for the concert in Bohemia Park this summer. Mark your calendars for the concert, Sunday, June 7, 2020 at 3:00 pm in Bohemia Park. It is quite an honor to be a part of this tour through the Pacific Northwest. This is not a concert to miss.

Youth Town Hall

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council held their Youth Town Hall on Monday. Fifteen youth attended and discussed youth mental health issues for nearly 90 minutes with the panel of local professionals. YAC members were very pleased with the discussion and received valuable insight into possible actions the YAC can take to help address some of the issues surrounding youth mental health.

Oregon Government Finance Officers Association (OGFOA) Spring Conference

The Finance Director and the Accounting Tech attended the Spring OGFOA Conference in Seaside this week. The conference provided an exceptional opportunity for continuing professional education and networking with public finance professionals throughout Oregon. Some of the conference sessions included how to prepare for the best audit ever with a step by step guide to a smooth and successful audit, tips for preparing the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), how to avoid common financial reporting deficiencies, a general session on PERS, Forecasting, and employee retention in a tight labor market, along with many others.

Audit Committee Meeting

The Audit Committee met today, March 6th, to review the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (Audit) for the City of Cottage Grove, fiscal year end 2018-19 with the City's Auditor, Gatlin Hawkins. Members of the Committee present were: Karen Winters, Jennifer Morrocco, Sarah

Holmgren, City Councilors Greg Irvin and Kenneth Roberts. The City Manager, Richard Meyers, and Finance Director, Roberta Likens also attended the meeting. The report contains a “clean opinion” on the financial statements and related disclosures. The Committee has fulfilled its responsibilities for oversight of the City’s financial reporting. Staff will be requesting acceptance of the report at the Council meeting, March 23rd.

Cultural Resource Survey

Do you remember when the swinging bridge was closed? How did that make you feel? How do you feel now that it is restored and available for use today? The community of Cottage Grove came together and expressed a need to preserve the bridge because it’s an asset to our heritage and community identity.

The University of Oregon’s Institute for Policy Research and Engagement (IPRE) and a group of graduate students have developed a Cultural Resource survey which will use your input to gain an understanding of the community’s awareness, values, and priorities for the protection of local heritage resources. The information from this survey will be used to assess the importance of heritage resources to the community and responses will be incorporated into a disaster preparedness plan for local heritage organizations.

Please ask your friends and family to complete the survey @ tinyurl.com/vv2vjrv. Those who respond will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 BiMart Gift Card. Your input is greatly appreciated.

Rural Opportunity Initiative (ROI) Grant Award

The City of Cottage Grove has been selected as a 2019-2021 Biennium Rural Opportunity Initiative (ROI) grant recipient from Business Oregon.

ROI is a strategic effort to cultivate local environments that support entrepreneurs and small businesses. Through financial support, innovative partnerships, network expansion, and access to business development resources, ROI helps strengthen and consolidate entrepreneurial ecosystems within and across Oregon’s rural communities.

The **City of Cottage Grove**, in partnership with the **Bohemia Food Hub (BFH)**, the **South Lane School District**, and **Rural Development Initiatives (RDI)**, will use the \$61,000 from ROI to create a variety of low risk opportunities to pilot food business ideas, and provide support to bring these ideas to market.

If you would like more information on this grant and its associated projects, please contact City Planner Amanda Ferguson at planner@cottagegrove.org.

Cottage Grove Library

It continues to be busy at the Library. Check out these programs and activities at the Library this week:

- Saturday Tech Help: Saturday 10-12 noon, Tech Help with your phone, tablet or computer
- Bilingual Family Storytime: Monday 6:30 pm, join in the fun! Stories, music, crafts
- Tuesday's Teen Hangout: Tuesday 4:00 pm, fun activities for Tweens and Teens
- Family Board Games: Wednesday 2:30 pm, all ages welcome for board game fun
- Baby Sign Time: Thursday 2:15 pm, bring your baby to learn to Sign
- Preschool Storytime: Friday 10:30 am, join us for stories, crafts, snack and fun
- Anime Club: Friday 4:00 pm, Teens, come watch and create Anime and smoothies

Opal Whiteley Celebration

On Saturday, March 21st the Cottage Grove Library will be holding a celebration of local artist Opal Whiteley. The Library will be celebrating the new Opal Whiteley collection display area and the 100th anniversary of her authorship. The day begins at 10:00 am with a lecture by Steve Williamson, local Opal Whiteley expert, at the Historical Society Meeting here in the Community Center. Then at noon celebrate Opal in the library at the new Opal Whiteley display with cake and cider. At 12:30 pm there will be a bus tour of Opal's homeland east of Cottage Grove with Steve Williamson as guide. Please call the Cottage Grove Public Library soon to sign up for the Opal Homeland Tour as seating is limited.

Quote of the Week

“Practice creates confidence. Confidence empowers you.”

Simone Biles, Olympic Gymnast